WASHINGTON AREA WOMEN STRIKE FOR PEACE
2140 P Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dear Friend:

We have sent the enclosed letter to the necessary authorities to express our opposition to the firing of Fred Gale by radio station WWDC-AM, an AVCO Corporation subsidiary. We believe that this is an example of restriction of the sources of public information, and that, as such, it may be of concern to you and to the organizations to which you belong.

The facts stated in our letter have been verified. If you decide to take similar action on this case, please adapt our letter to your own situation. Your communication should be sent as follows:

The signed original and six (6) copies to: Ben Waple, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

One copy to: Station Manager, WWDC-AM, 8800 Brookville Road, Silver Spring, Maryland.

One copy to: Fred Gale, c/o WSP, 2140 P. St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20037

One copy to: Al Kramer, Citizens Communications Center, 1816 Jefferson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

Thank you very much.

Washington Area WOMEN STRIKE FOR PEACE

To The
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

PETITION TO DENY LICENSE RENEWAL

We, the undersigned, petition the Federal Communications Commission not to renew the radio license of WWDC-AM, Washington, D.C., an AVCO Corporation subsidiary.

On March 1, 1970, Fred Gale, the moderator of the talk show Comment heard Monday through Saturday on WWDC from 10:10 P.M. to 12:30 A.M., was informed of a corporate decision to fire him in a month. The company's press release cited the need to broaden the format of the program. Four months earlier it had been hinted that Mr. Gale should moderate his opinions, that they were too radical.

Those of us who depended on his show for a wide range of information pertaining to the community and the nation are not only startled by the suggestion that the format of the program was not broad enough, but are also disturbed by the implications the firing of Mr. Gale have for free speech. He interviewed persons representing every corner of the D.C. community, whatever their philosophy, including members of the City Council as John Hechinger, Sterling Tucker, Stanley Anderson; Assistant Corporation Counsel Steve Stark; D.C. School Board candidates; Police Chief Jerry Wilson; leaders of the Police Boys Club; Goldie John, President of the Police Wives Association; Lawrence Speiser of the American Civil Liberties Union; Marion Barry of Pride, Inc.; several professors from local universities, psychiatric social workers; policymakers from the model cities program; members of the Black Economic Union; George Avery of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; James Kennely of the D.C. Archdiocese and Father McSorley of Georgetown University, etc. On the national level, there were pro-war groups such as the Committee for Victory with Honor in Vietnam and peace groups such as the Mobilization to End the War in Vietnam and Quaker leaders; Curtis Dahl of the Liberty Lobby; the Finance Forum of America; conservative author Jeffrey St. John; Jack Anderson; linguist and author Noam Chomsky; George Fisher, President of the National Education Association; students from the Presidential Classroom; several congressmen; humorist Mort Sahl; singer Sergio Franchi; stars of the Ice Capades, etc. Every opportunity was granted for expression of the opposing point of view and it was heard. The program exemplified the fairness doctrine as advocated in the Red Lion decision.